

# STARBLAZER

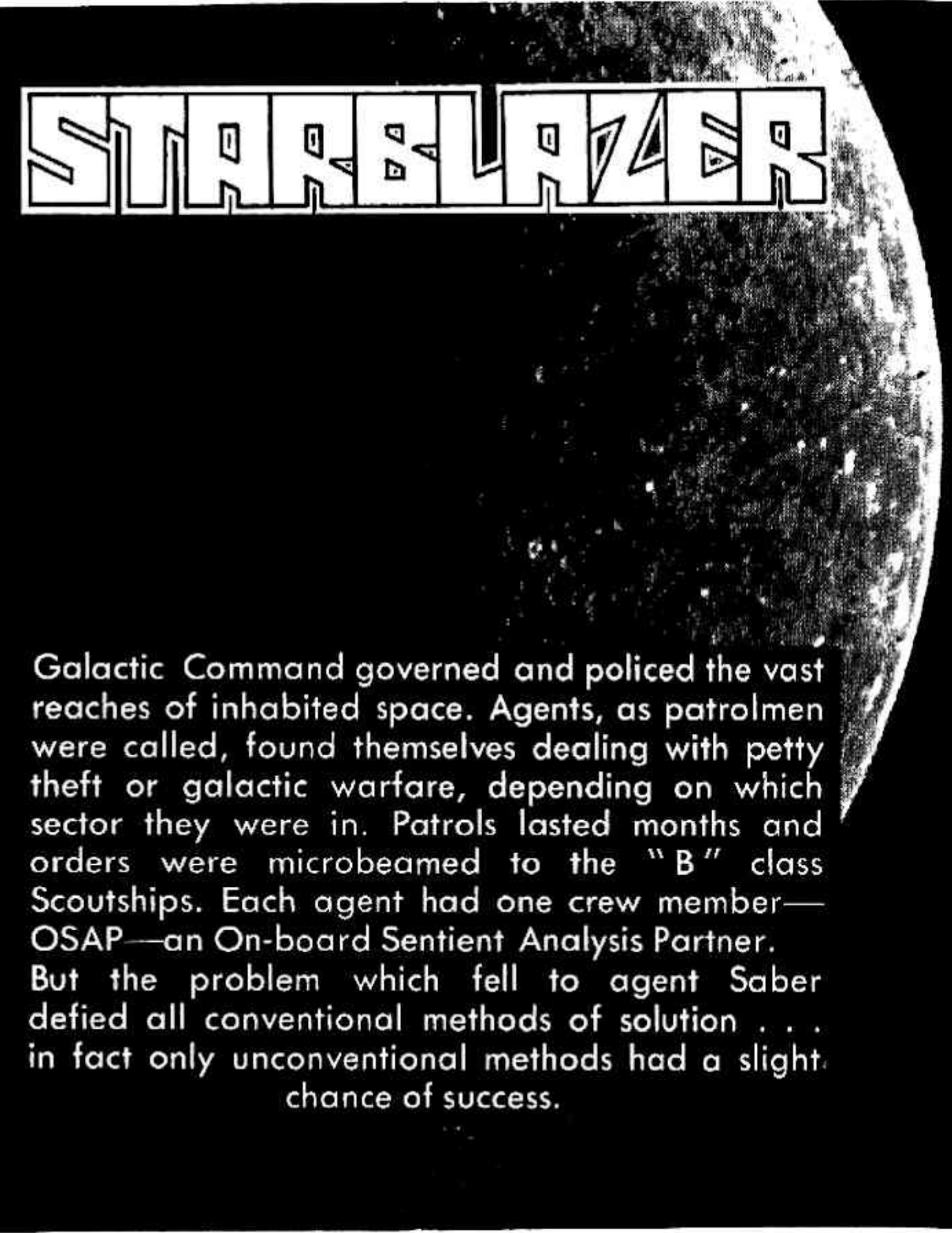
SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 125

20p

## SABER THE SLAYER

HE FACED FEARSOME FOES AND THEIR AWESOME  
ARMOURY OF GROTESQUE WAR MACHINES.

# STARSLAYER



Galactic Command governed and policed the vast reaches of inhabited space. Agents, as patrolmen were called, found themselves dealing with petty theft or galactic warfare, depending on which sector they were in. Patrols lasted months and orders were microbeamed to the "B" class Scoutships. Each agent had one crew member—OSAP—an On-board Sentient Analysis Partner. But the problem which fell to agent Saber defied all conventional methods of solution . . . in fact only unconventional methods had a slight chance of success.

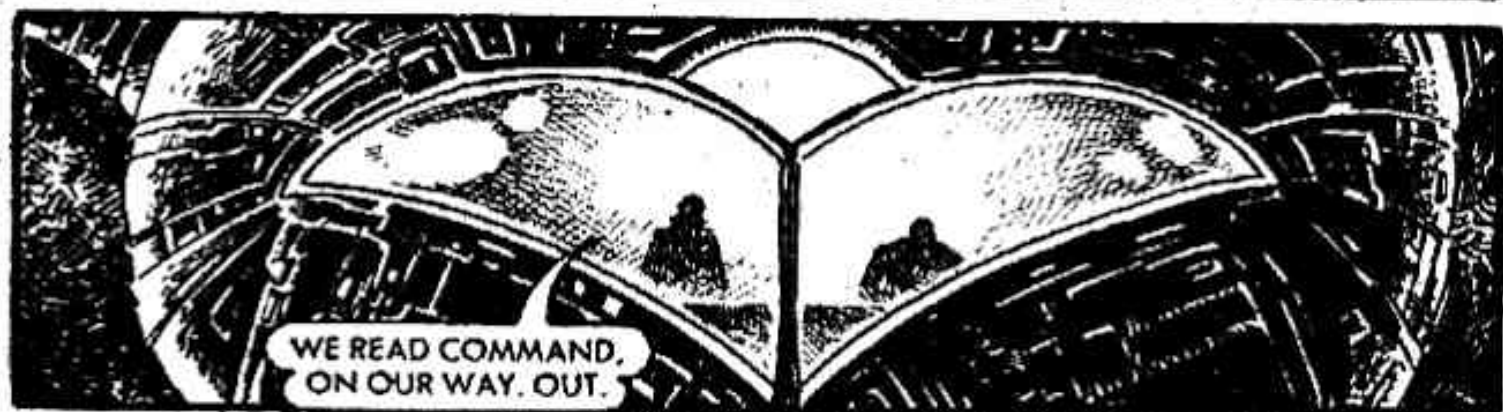
# SABER THE SLAYER

FAR OUT IN THE ETHER WASTES, AGENT SABER RECEIVED A CALL.

GALACTIC COMMAND TO  
THUNDERBOLT, DO YOU READ, OVER?









5  
WITH LITTLE MORE THAN A RIPPLE ACROSS HER BACK, THE "B" CLASS SCOUTER THUNDERBOLT, SNAPPED INTO FULL ACCELERATION

VERMICITE POWER RESERVES ARE CHARGED UP, SKIPPER. READY WHEN YOU ARE.

RIGHT OSAP, LET HER HAVE IT — NAVBANK, PUNCH IN CO-ORDINATES FOR HQ. LET'S GO.

WHAT ABOUT THE SMUGGLERS, SKIPPER?

THEY'LL WAIT OSAP. THEY CAN'T ESCAPE FOR EVER.

THE SMUGGLERS WERE WATCHING CLOSELY.

SEE, THE COWARDS FLEE, PURSUE, PURSUE,  
GET THEM, OBLITERATE THEM. HURRY,  
FOOLS.

BUT MAGNIFICENCE, WE CANNOT  
CATCH THEM NOW, THEY HAVE THE  
FASTER VESSEL.



IMBECILE, COWARD, YOU DARE TO DOUBT MY ORDERS. YOU HAVE  
COST ME MY PRIZE, PURSUE YOU FOOL, PURSUE, PURSUE.



THUNDERBOLT'S  
SENSORS HAD PICKED  
UP THE SMUGGLERS'  
CRAFT —

ALIEN, ALIEN. BEARING 176  
ON APPROACH COURSE, BUT  
NOT CLOSING. SMUGGLERS!  
THEY THINK WE'RE MAKING  
A RUN FOR IT.

WE CAN'T STOP NOW, OSAP,  
BUT WE CAN GIVE THEM A  
PARTING SHOT.

THE THUNDERBOLT'S ONATRON GUNS BURST INTO LIFE

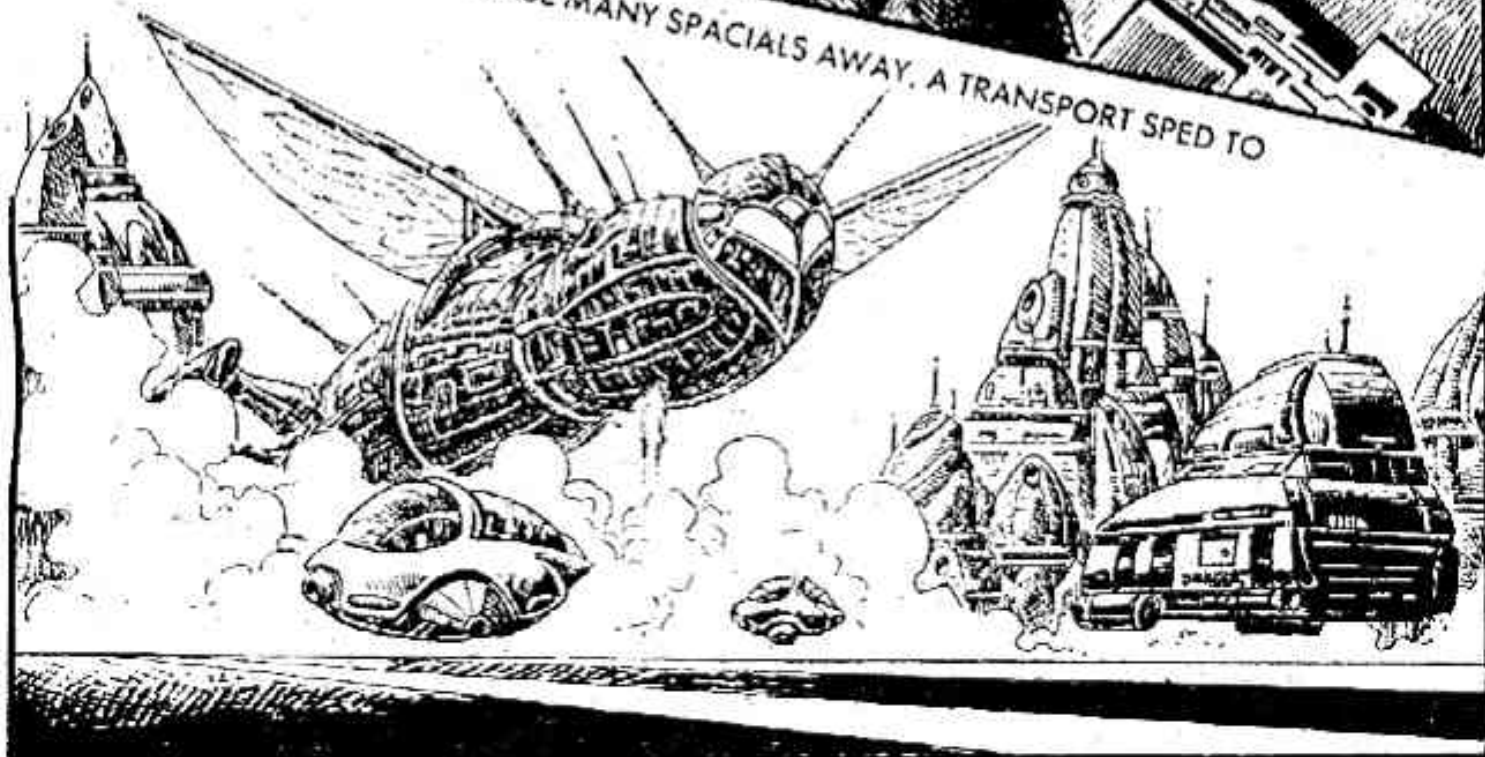
THE DEADLY ELECTRONICALLY  
GUIDED PLASMA BOLTS HIT THEIR TARGETS.

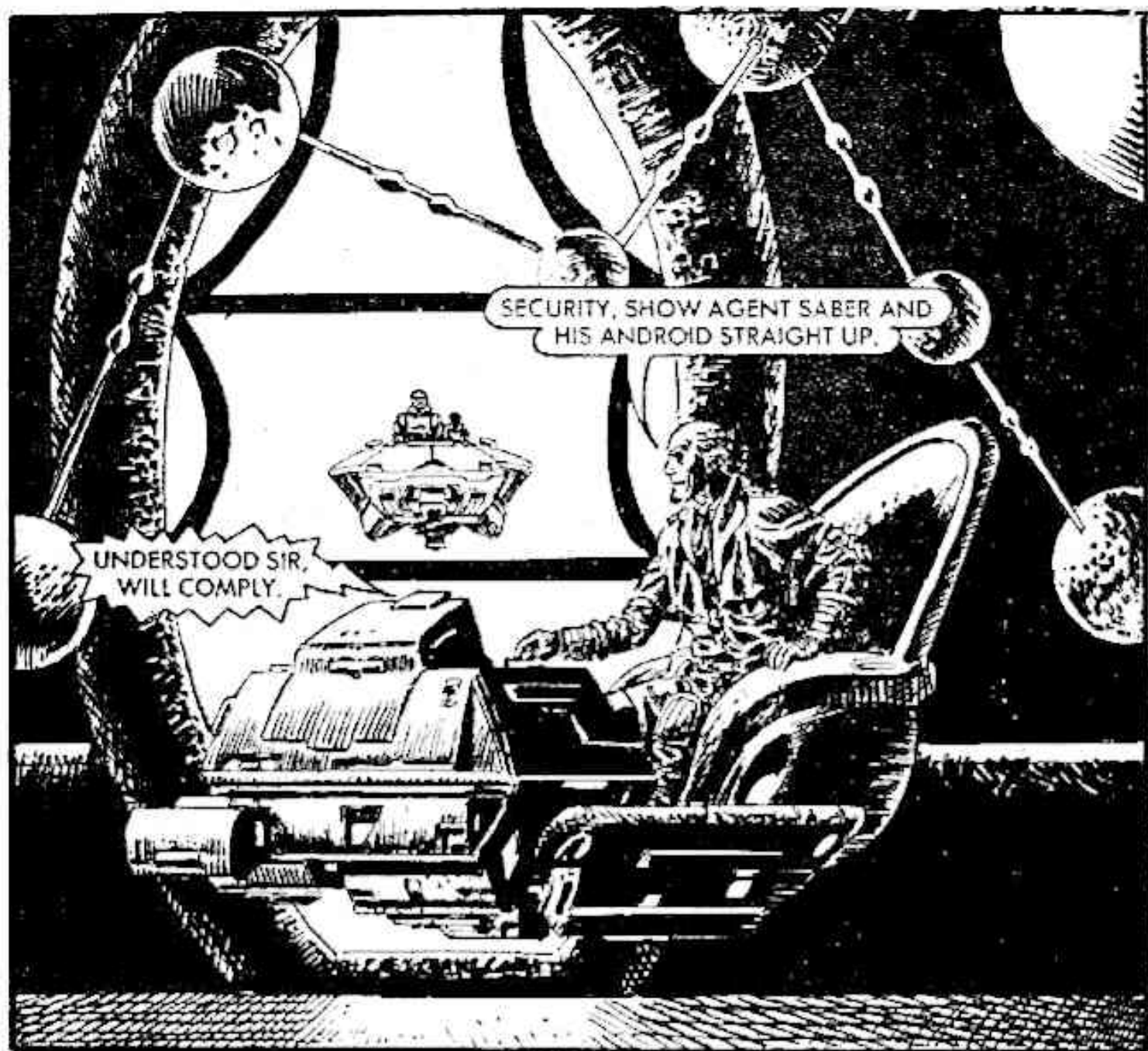


ON BOARD THE SMUGGLERS' CRAFT, DEFENCE SHIELDS SHORT-CIRCUITED, SENDING A SHUDDER OF ONATRON ENERGY THROUGH THE SHIP —



AS THUNDERBOLT LANDED AT BASE MANY SPACIALS AWAY, A TRANSPORT SPED TO MEET SABER —





THE TWO ARRIVED



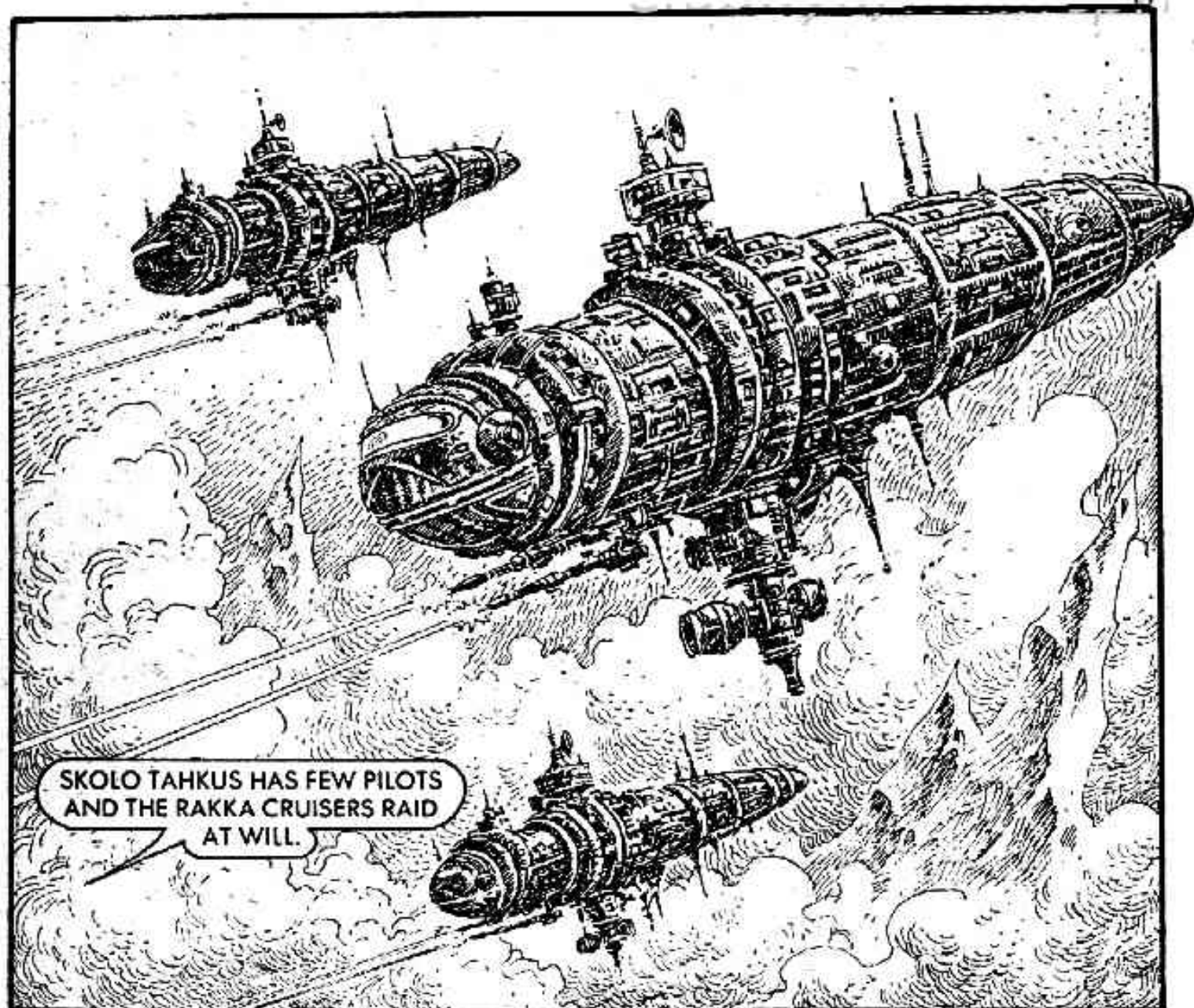




SKOLO TAHKUS, LORD OF THE MAKO WARRIORS, HAS BEEN IN TOUCH. IT SEEMS THEY ARE UNDER CONSTANT AND HEAVY ATTACK BY THE RAKKA FORCES FROM THE SAME SOLAR SYSTEM.

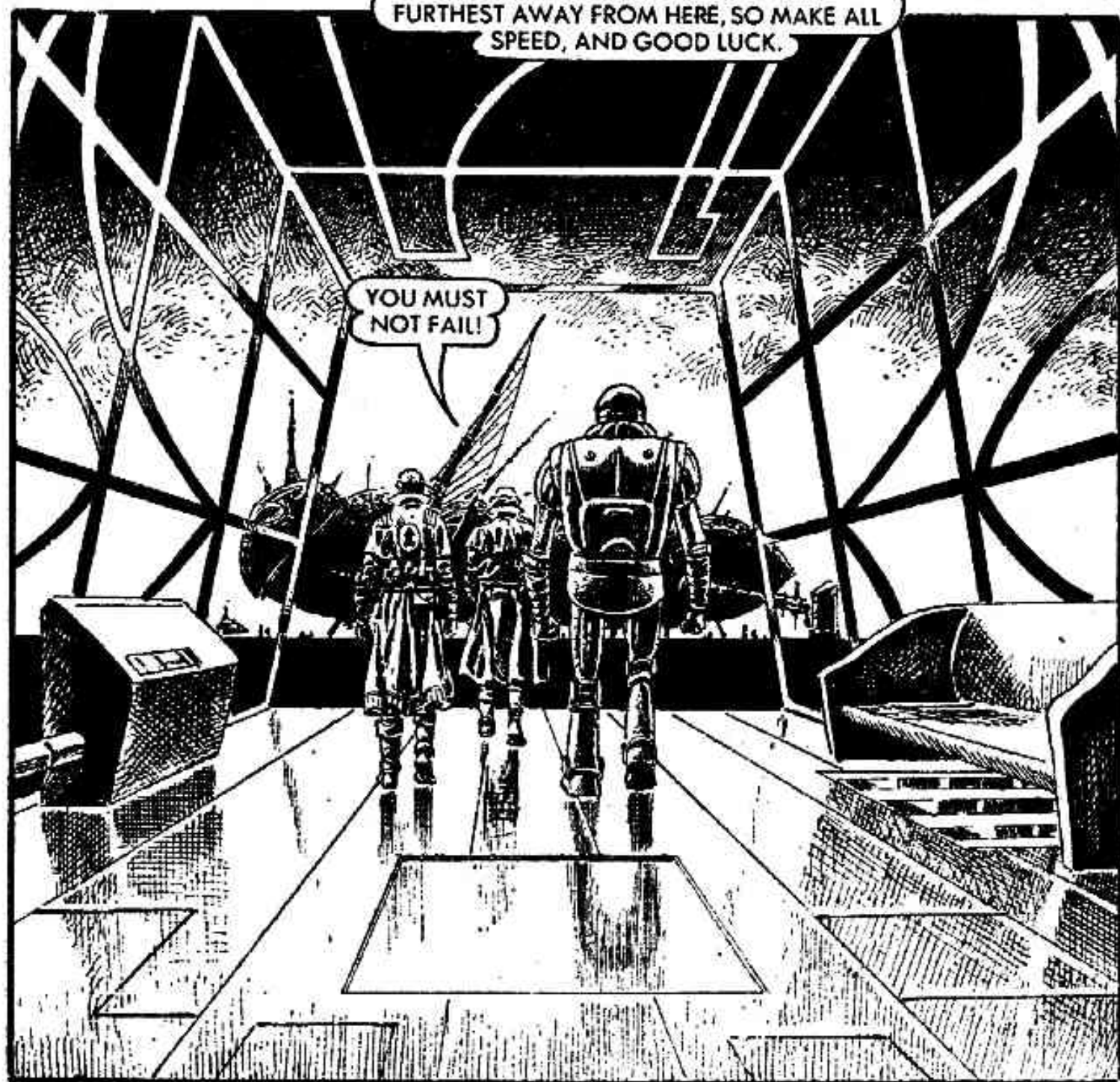
MAKO SUPPLIES US WITH PRETANE FUEL, BUT RAKKA CRAFT THREATEN THE SUPPLY LINES. WITHOUT THAT PRETANE OUR SOLAR RADIATION CONVERTERS WOULD NOT FUNCTION. SO, AGENT SABER, STRATEGIC COMMAND HAS DECIDED IT WOULD BE THE LEAST WE COULD DO TO SEND YOU OUT THERE AS AN ADVISOR. HELP THEM DEFEND THEMSELVES AND SET UP A SECURITY SYSTEM ACROSS THEIR PLANET TO PROTECT THEM IN THE FUTURE.





IMMEDIATELY SABER WAS ON HIS WAY AGAIN —







AS OSAP CHECKED THUNDERBOLT —

WHAT SORT OF SHAPE  
ARE WE IN?

A.1 SIR, YOUR ONATRON GUNS ARE HARDLY  
DRAINED AND YOU HAVE SUFFICIENT VERMICITE  
FUEL PODS FOR TWO YEARS CONTINUOUS  
FLIGHT. WILL YOU BE AWAY LONG?

BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT,  
AND THANKS A LOT.

WE HOPE.

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO MAKO, BUT  
I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF IT.

ME NEITHER, OSAP! AND I'VE NEVER MET AN  
ANDROID WITH A 'NERVOUS' CIRCUIT BEFORE  
— I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALL MACHINE?

THE THUNDERBOLT SNAPPED SPACEWARDS.



WAITING IN SPACE, CRAFT REPAIRED, WERE THE SMUGGLERS —

THEY COME, THE FOOLS, THEY COME!  
PREPARE TO DESTROY THEM. HURRY, THEY  
MUST NOT ESCAPE THIS TIME, I SHALL  
OBLITERATE THEM.



CO-ORDINATES LOCKED IN FOR MAKO  
SKIPPER. READY WHEN YOU ARE.

RIGHT, OSAP, FULL  
THRUST NOW.



THE LUCKLESS SMUGGLERS RECEIVED ANOTHER SHOCK AS THE ENERGY DISPLACEMENT FROM THUNDERBOLT ROCKED THE CRAFT —

SPACE VERMIN, BUNGLERS, MUST I BE SURROUNDED BY IDIOTS? I'LL HAVE YOU ALL FLOGGED AND SET ADrift ON THE NEXT ASTEROID, IMBECILES...



UNAWARE OF THE SMUGGLERS' FLIGHT, SABER WAS ENTERING THE FRIDGICELL, WHICH WOULD SUSPEND HIS LIFE CYCLE UNTIL THEY APPROACHED MAKO...

ALL YOURS OSAP. I DON'T WANT TO BE AN OLD MAN WHEN WE GET THERE.



UNDERSTOOD, SKIPPER, IN LESS THAN AN HOUR WE'LL BE CRASHING THE LIGHT BARRIER, I'LL THAW YOU OUT ONCE WE SLOW DOWN AGAIN.

ALTHOUGH THE JOURNEY

TOOK ONLY HOURS

IN EARTH TIME, ONCE THE LIGHT BARRIER WAS PASSED, EARTH YEARS PASSED IN MINUTES.



FORTY SEVEN MINUTES LATER THE THUNDERBOLT DECELERATED —

IT'S KIND OF  
COLD IN THERE.

NEARLY THERE, MASTER! I'VE REDUCED  
TO LIGHT FACTOR 7.

THE THUNDERBOLT SLOWED AS SHE APPROACHED THE OUTER ATMOSPHERE OF MAKO.

BETTER GET A SIGNAL OFF, OSAP. DON'T  
WANT THEM TO THINK WE'RE RAKKAS...

ALIEN, ALIEN. BEARING 245 SECTOR 3,  
COLLISION COURSE AND CLOSING.  
IMPACT 2 MINUTES, ACTIVATING  
ENERGY BARRIERS NOW, WEAPONS ON  
STAND BY.







BARRIERS ON MAXIMUM; SECTOR-VIEW  
ON VISUAL, HURRY OSAP.

OSAP SWITCHED ON THE TRANSPARENT VISIDECK —

GOT THEM, OSAP?

GOT THEM, SKIPPER, COMING IN FAST,  
SECTOR THREE. YOU SHOULD HAVE THEM  
ON VISUAL ANY MOMENT.

ALIEN, ALIEN, COLLISION  
IMMINENT, REPEAT IMMINENT.




BUT OSAP WAS FIRING THE ONATRON CANNON TO FORCE THE CRAFT OFF —

AS SABER AND OSAP FOUGHT, FAR BELOW THEM . . .


... AND I, SKOLO TAHKUS, LORD OF THE MAKO  
WARRIORS, IN KEEPING WITH THE LAWS OF THE  
ANCIENTS HAVE SUMMONED HELP.







FORGIVE ME MY LORD, I THINK THE EARTH  
PEOPLE APPROACH. THE RAKKAS ATTACK  
THEM — BY YOUR LEAVE WE MUST HELP.



WHAT STRENGTH MAN,  
DO WE KNOW?

WE ESTIMATE ONLY TWO RAKKA, POSSIBLY  
A SMALL RECONNAISSANCE FORCE.

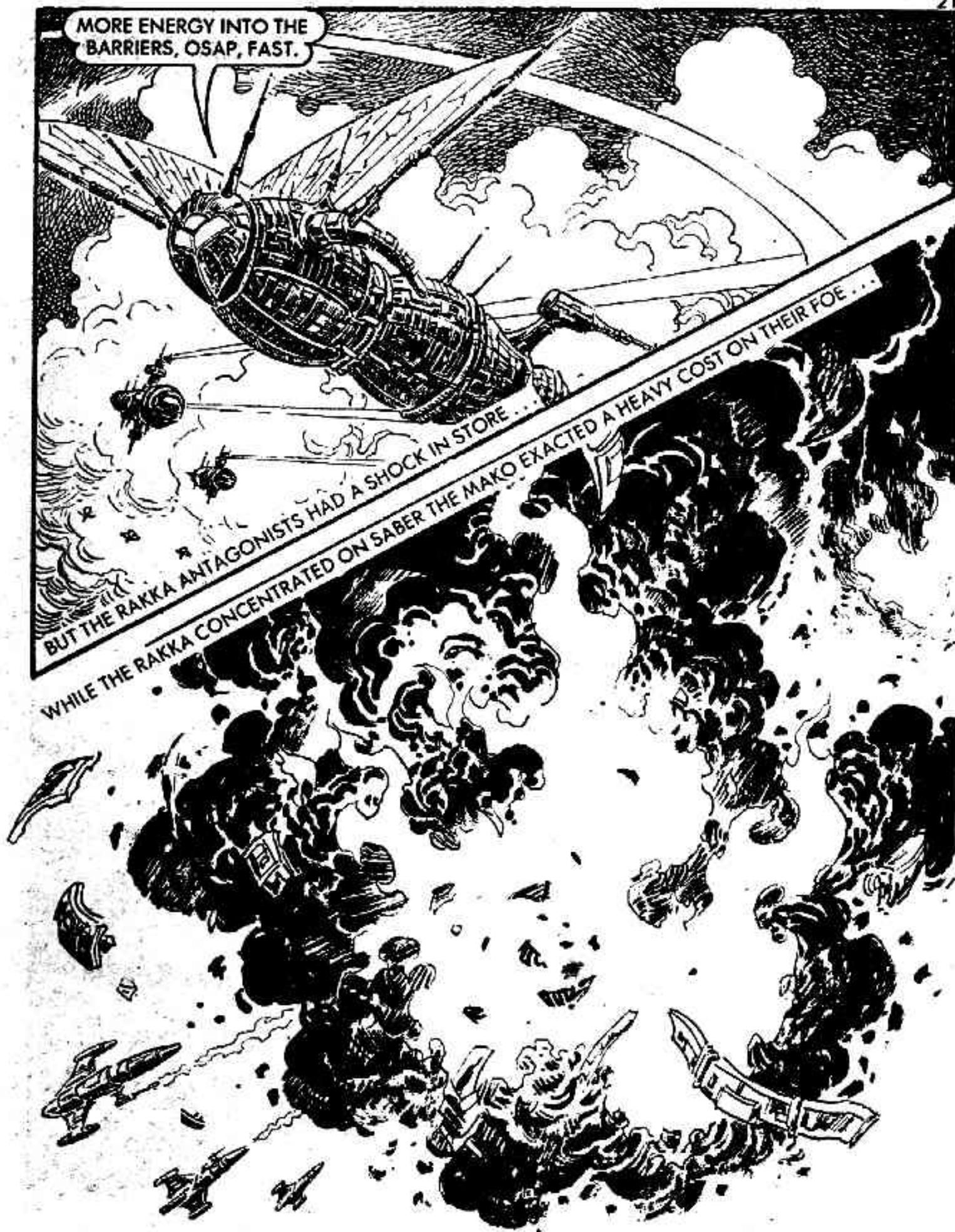
THE MAKO FORCE ROARED INTO THE STRATOSPHERE.





MORE ENERGY INTO THE  
BARRIERS, OSAP, FAST.

BUT THE RAKKA ANTAGONISTS HAD A SHOCK IN STORE ...  
WHILE THE RAKKA CONCENTRATED ON SABER THE MAKO EXACTED A HEAVY COST ON THEIR FOE ...



SABER LANDED SAFELY —

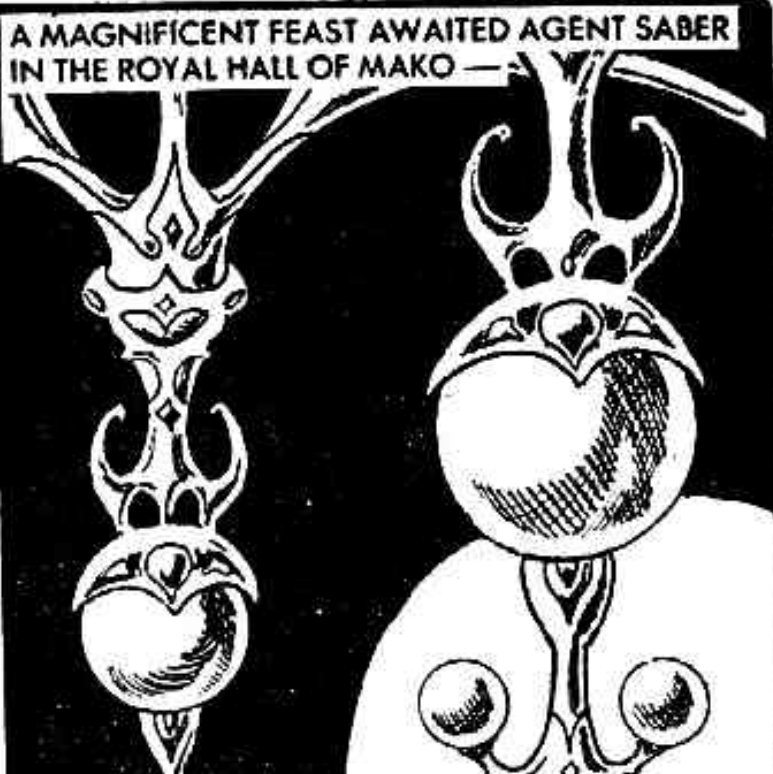


THE LORD OF THE MAKO  
WARRIORS WELCOMES YOU. WE  
ARE INDEBTED TO GALACTIC  
COMMAND.

GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE. THE AIM  
OF GALACTIC COMMAND IS PEACE  
THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY.



A MAGNIFICENT FEAST AWAITED AGENT SABER  
IN THE ROYAL HALL OF MAKO —

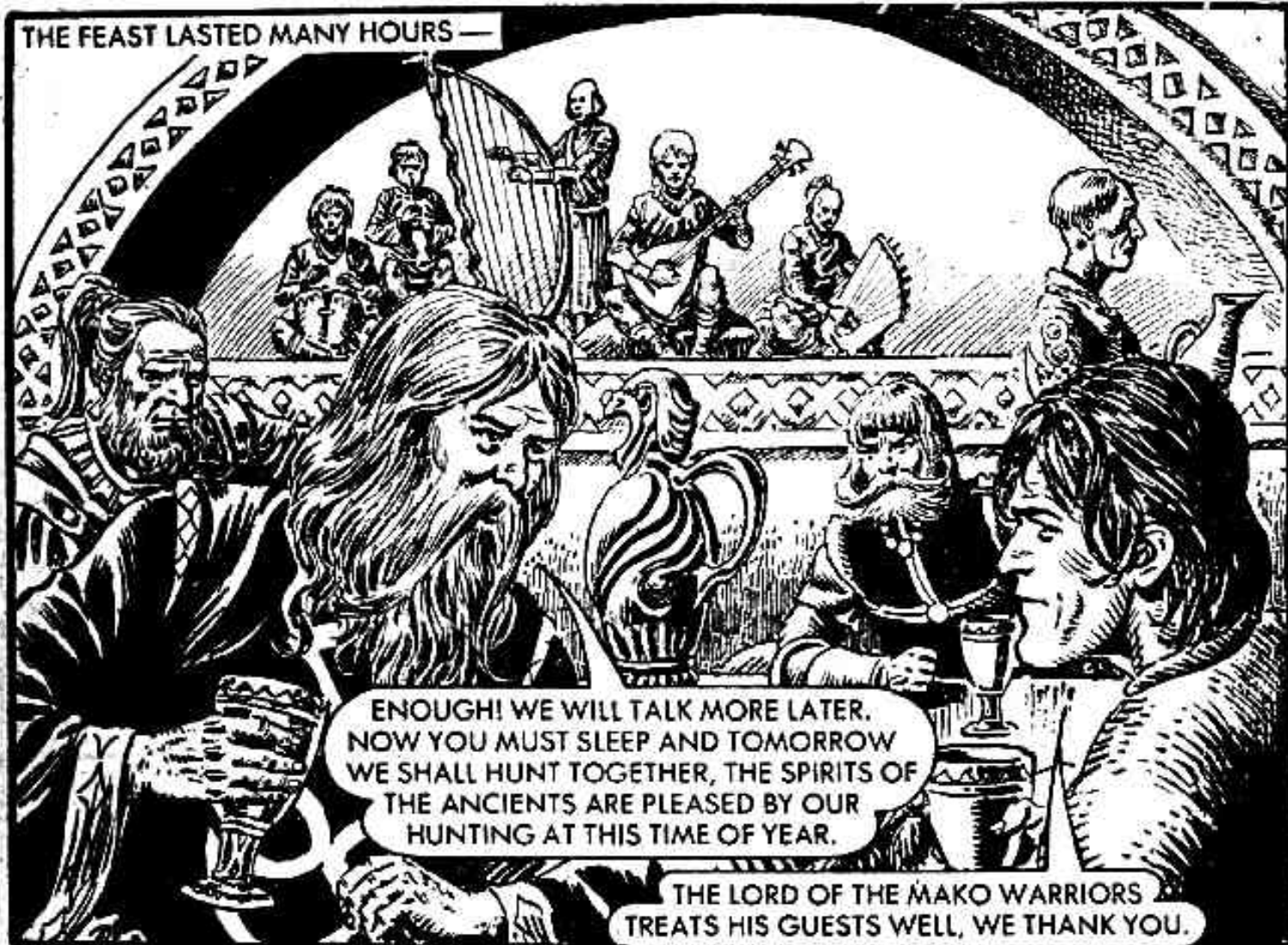


COME, WE MUST EAT, THERE IS  
MUCH TO DISCUSS. WHILST YOU  
ARE OUR GUESTS, MY HOUSE IS  
YOUR HOUSE.





THE FEAST LASTED MANY HOURS —



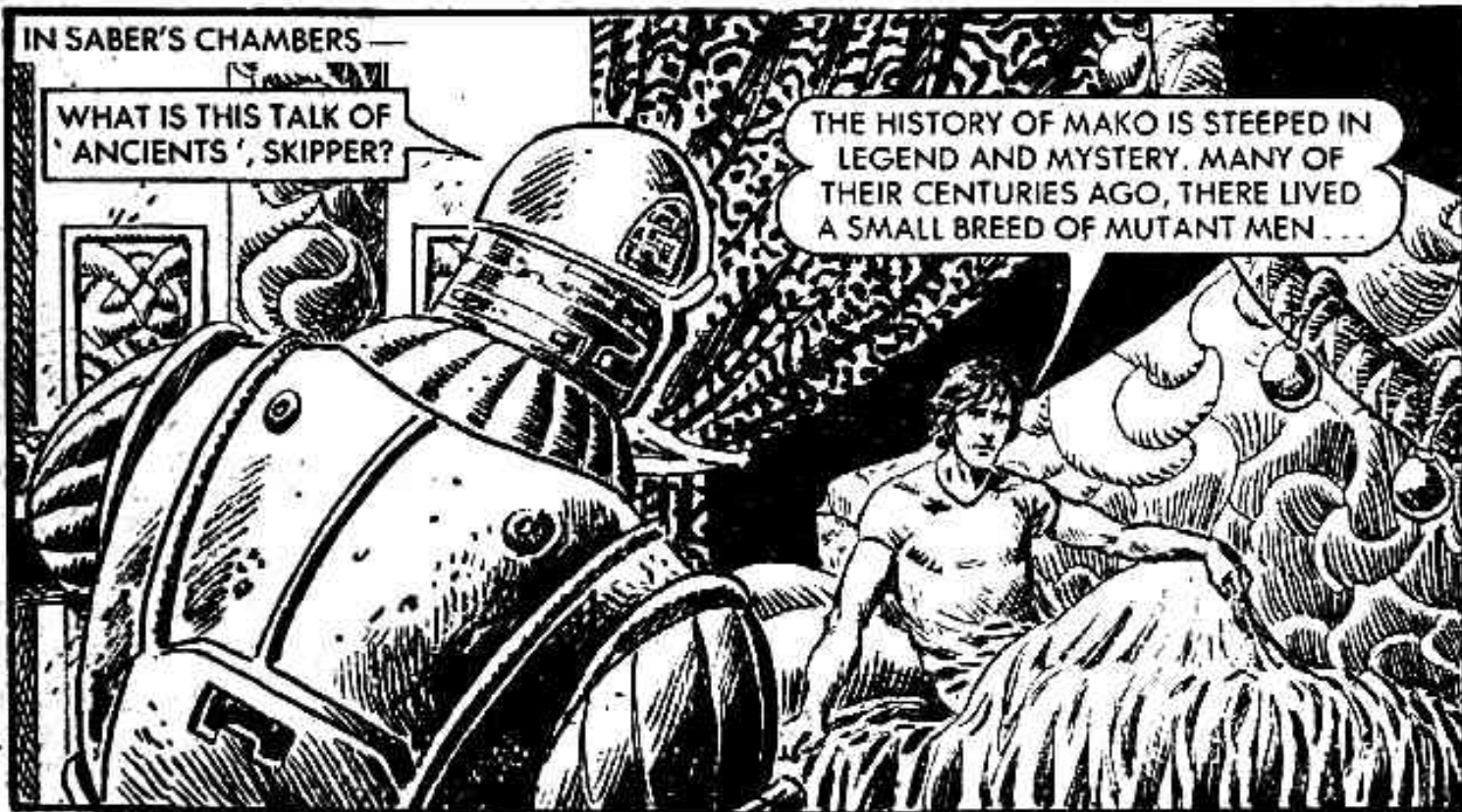
ENOUGH! WE WILL TALK MORE LATER.  
NOW YOU MUST SLEEP AND TOMORROW  
WE SHALL HUNT TOGETHER, THE SPIRITS OF  
THE ANCIENTS ARE PLEASED BY OUR  
HUNTING AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

THE LORD OF THE MAKO WARRIORS  
TREATS HIS GUESTS WELL, WE THANK YOU.

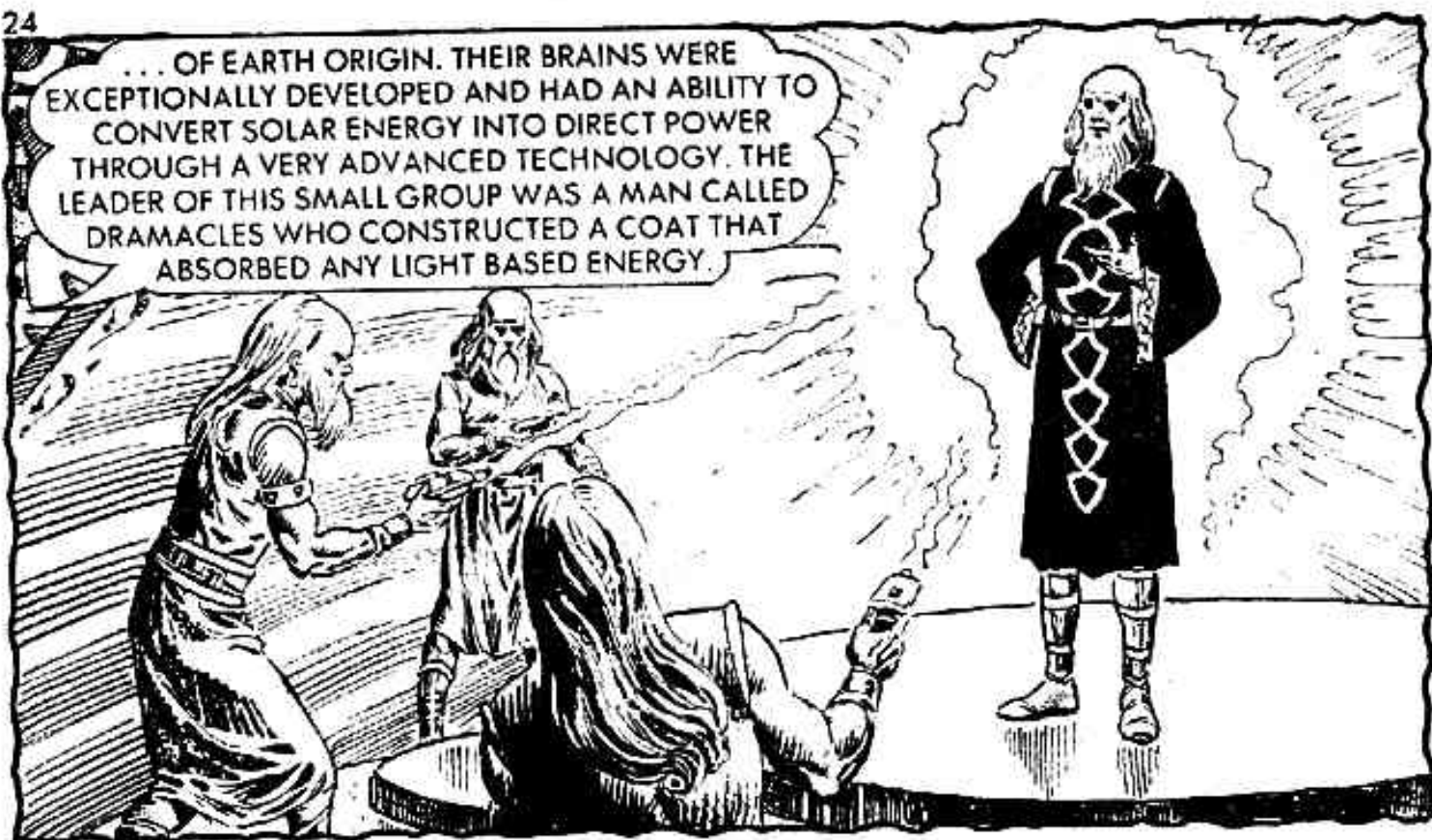
IN SABER'S CHAMBERS —

WHAT IS THIS TALK OF  
'ANCIENTS', SKIPPER?

THE HISTORY OF MAKO IS STEEPED IN  
LEGEND AND MYSTERY. MANY OF  
THEIR CENTURIES AGO, THERE LIVED  
A SMALL BREED OF MUTANT MEN...



... OF EARTH ORIGIN. THEIR BRAINS WERE EXCEPTIONALLY DEVELOPED AND HAD AN ABILITY TO CONVERT SOLAR ENERGY INTO DIRECT POWER THROUGH A VERY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY. THE LEADER OF THIS SMALL GROUP WAS A MAN CALLED DRAMACLES WHO CONSTRUCTED A COAT THAT ABSORBED ANY LIGHT BASED ENERGY.



WHEN MOST PEOPLE ON MAKO WERE ASLEEP —

THIS INFILTRATION SQUAD SHALL DESTROY MAKO. IT WILL BE AS THOUGH IT HAD NEVER EXISTED. ALL SHALL PERISH BEFORE THE NOBLE RAKKA.





BUT THERE WERE THOSE WHO DIDN'T NEED ANY SLEEP.



INTERESTING CIRCUITS ON THESE ONATRON VERTICAL-THRUST BLASTERS. IF ANYTHING METAL PASSES ABOVE THEM, WITHIN A RANGE OF FORTY TRONICS, THEY WILL BLAST A HOLE THROUGH IT. BETTER WATCH OUT ONCE THEY'VE BEEN PRIMED, MY MEMORY CIRCUITS TELL ME I'M MADE OF METAL!


THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

WHAT ARE THOSE?

A SIMPLE PRECAUTION, LORD SKOLO, A SINGLE ONATRON THRUST WILL CHOP THROUGH A RAKKA VESSEL.







WHY I SHOULD SIT ON THIS  
CUMBERSOME CREATURE WHEN I AM ABLE  
TO WALK IS GIVING MY COMPUTER  
FEEDBACK!!!

WAIT! HOLD YOUR FIRE!

THE INFILTRATION SQUAD SWEEP IN



I SEE SKOLO TAHKUS AND AN ALIEN.  
OUR LEADER WOULD BE GREATLY  
PLEASED IF WE COULD CAPTURE OR  
KILL THESE UGLY SPECIMENS. ALERT  
THE SQUADRON, FAN OUT AND SLIP  
IN LOW OVER THE CITY.



AN ONATRON BEAM EXPLODED INTO LIFE —

TAKE COVER! BACK TO BASE AS  
FAST AS YOU CAN. OSAP, STAND BY.



ONLY ONE OF THE RAKKA FORCE MANAGED TO SLIP THROUGH THE DEFENCES . . .



... BUT THEY HADN'T CONSIDERED OSAP WITH HIS FINGERTIP PHASERBEAM —

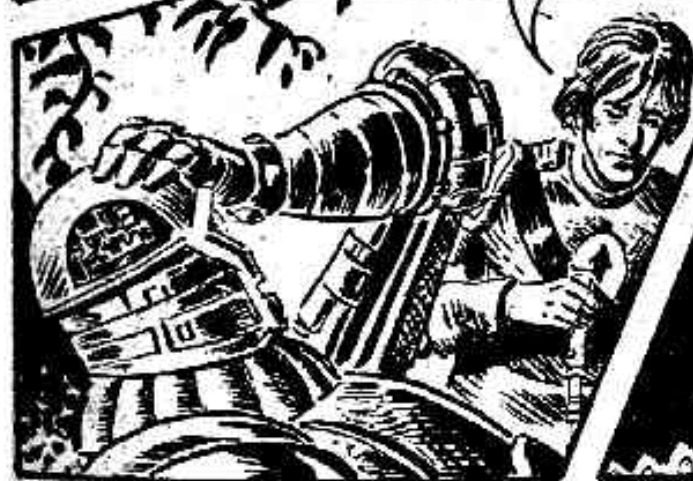




THE PHASERBEAM ENCIRCLED THE CRAFT IN A BALL OF FLAME —



NO DAMAGE, OSAP, JUST A FEW  
SINGE MARKS. YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT.



THE EXPLODING RAKKA CRAFT HAD  
EXPOSED AN UNDERGROUND  
CHAMBER —

OVER HERE! I THINK  
WE'VE GOT SOMETHING.



NEITHER SABER NOR OSAP WERE ABLE TO OPEN THE STRANGE OBJECT.

WAIT, IT IS WRITTEN . . .



... THAT THE MODULE WILL  
ONLY FALL OPEN TO THE LORD  
OF THE MAKU WARRIORS.



THE EGG-SHAPED  
CONTAINER SLID  
OPEN —



IT IS THE COAT.



INSIDE WAS A DOCUMENT —


THE ANCIENTS FORESAW THE  
PLIGHT OF MAKO. ANOTHER  
COAT WAS MADE TO COVER  
THIS EVENTUALLY. WEAR IT  
WELL, STRANGER.

SABER DONNED THE COAT —

IT'S WEIGHTLESS, I CAN SEE AND  
FEEL IT, BUT IT WEIGHS NOTHING.

TOGETHER WE SHALL DEFEAT THE  
EVIL PLANS OF THE RAKKA.

THEY SET OUT TO TRACK DOWN THE RAKKA BASE ON MAKO —



YOUR MACHINE IS NOT JOINING US THIS TIME?

NO SKOLO, HE HAS ALMOST COMPLETED THE NETWORK OF PROTECTORS. DON'T WORRY. I HAVE AN ONATRON GUN WITH ME, JUST IN CASE.

THEY RODE DEEP INTO THE LUSH VEGETATION NAMED THE FOREST OF LOST SOULS —



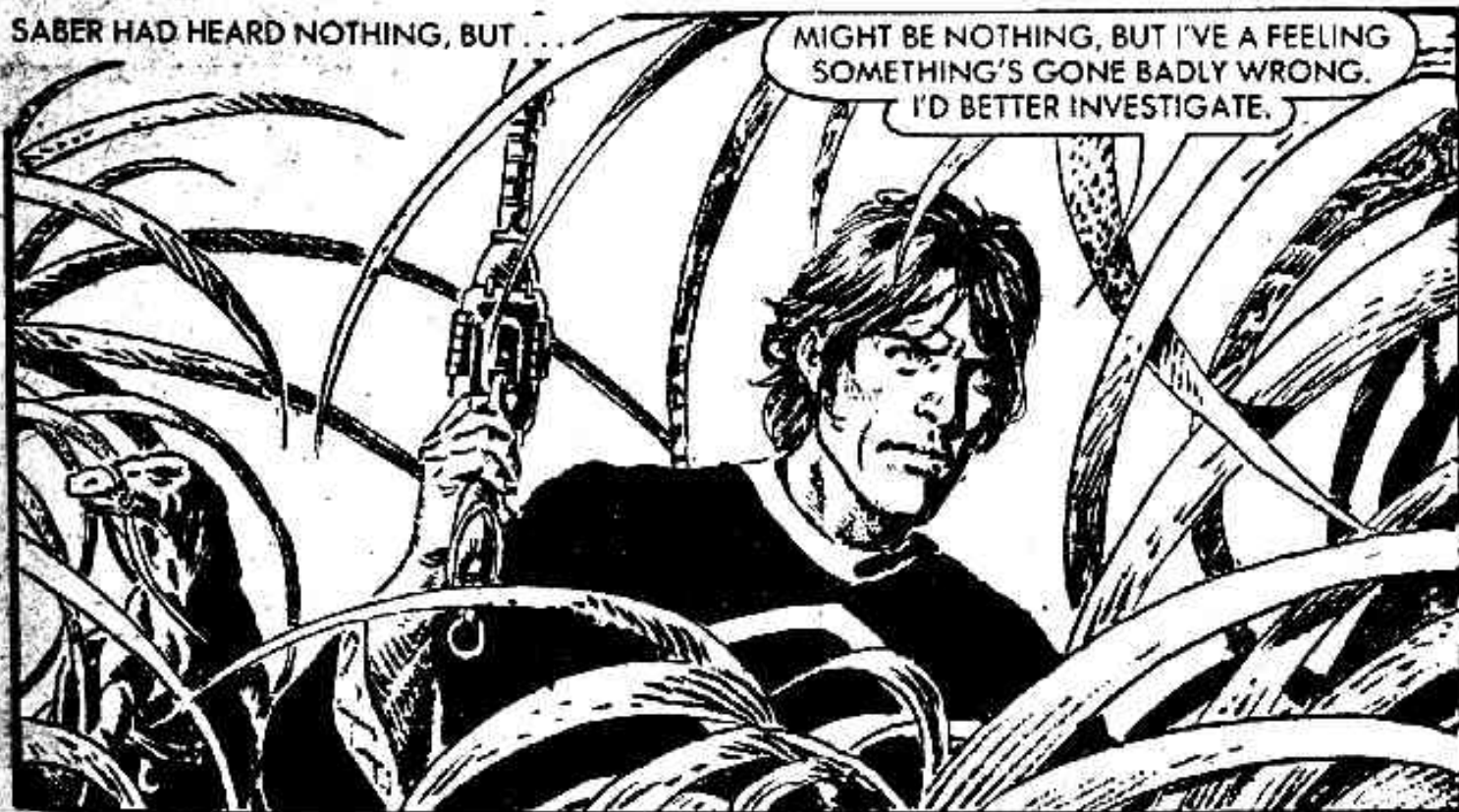


UNAWARE OF THE EVIL EYES WATCHING HIM, SKOLO RODE INTO A RAKKA AMBUSH —



THREE OF YOU STAY HERE AND FIND THE ALIEN SCUM. DESTROY HIM AND HIS BEAST.

SABER HAD HEARD NOTHING, BUT ...



MIGHT BE NOTHING, BUT I'VE A FEELING SOMETHING'S GONE BADLY WRONG. I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE.







A SAVAGE DEATH STABBED THROUGH TWO RAKKA INVADERS.



THEY HAVE SKOLO, OSAP, BUT THEY  
CANNOT HARM HIM WHILST HE  
WEARS THE COAT. IF THEY TAKE IT OFF  
HIM, THOUGH...

THEN, WE CAN  
RESCUE HIM!

BUT HOW? WE'VE HAD NO REPORTS  
OF A SHIP LANDING IN THE LAST  
FEW DAYS, SO THE RAKKA MUST  
BE HERE ALREADY. WE COULD  
SEARCH THIS TERRAIN FOR SEVERAL  
TRONES AND NEVER FIND THEIR  
BASE. WE MUST FOLLOW, USING AN  
ION TRACKER.





MEANWHILE, NOT VERY FAR AWAY...

QUICKLY, GET THE COWARD INSIDE. WE DON'T WANT ANYONE TO DISCOVER OUR BASE.



LATER THAT SAME DAY, AS THUNDERBOLT  
RELENTLESSLY SEARCHED —

NO LIFE FORMS.

WE'LL HAVE TO GO DOWN  
AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND.

ALIEN! ALIEN! SECTOR TWO BEARING  
345 AND CLOSING. BARRIERS UP,  
GUNS ON STANDBY.

LOCK IN GUNS ON AUTOMATIC,  
DO NOT FIRE UNTIL I GIVE THE  
COMMAND. WE MUST BE CLOSE,  
THEY'RE GETTING NERVOUS.

MAXIMUM POWER TO FORCE BARRIERS!  
DO NOT RETURN THEIR FIRE.







KILL THE TERRAN SCUM!

I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH! SHIFT  
BARRIERS TO ONE WAY, FIRE ALL  
GUNS ON AUTOMATIC  
TRACKING... NOW.

ABOUT TIME, MY COMPUTERS  
ARE OVERLOADING.



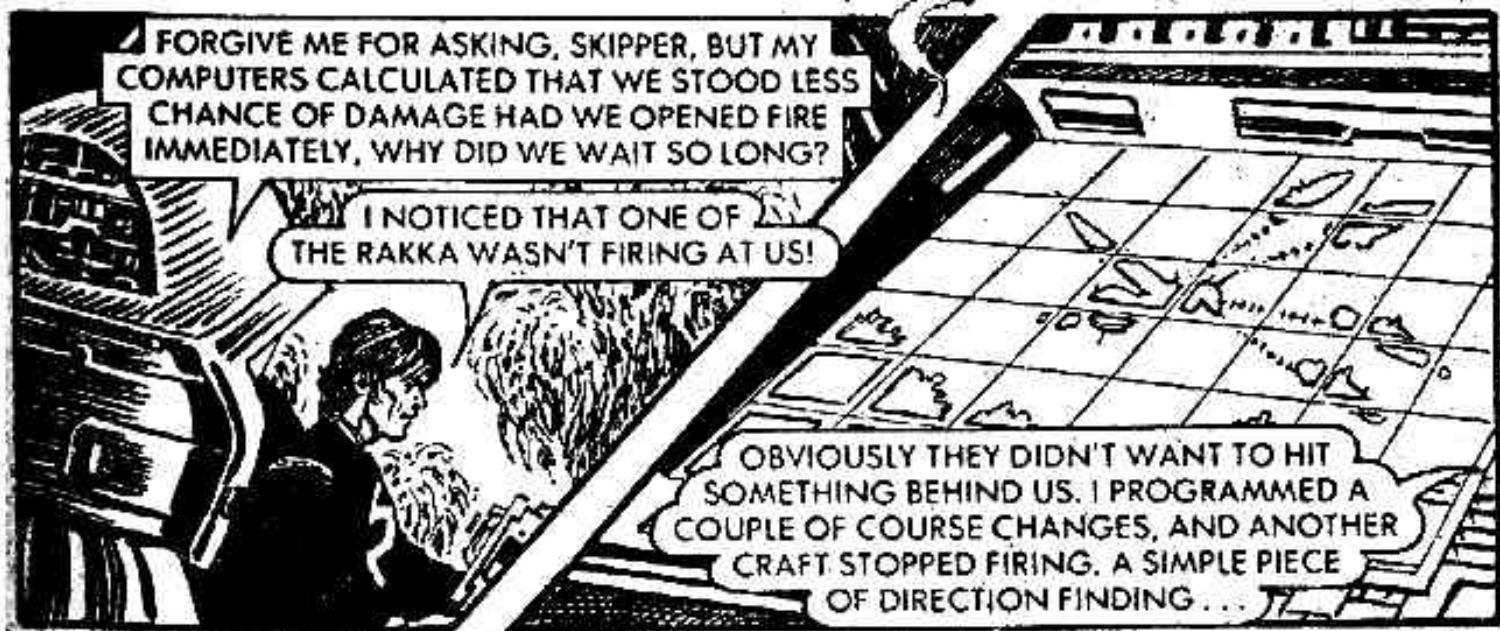
THE DESTRUCTION WAS TOTAL.



FORGIVE ME FOR ASKING, SKIPPER, BUT MY COMPUTERS CALCULATED THAT WE STOOD LESS CHANCE OF DAMAGE HAD WE OPENED FIRE IMMEDIATELY, WHY DID WE WAIT SO LONG?

I NOTICED THAT ONE OF THE RAKKA WASN'T FIRING AT US!

OBVIOUSLY THEY DIDN'T WANT TO HIT SOMETHING BEHIND US. I PROGRAMMED A COUPLE OF COURSE CHANGES, AND ANOTHER CRAFT STOPPED FIRING. A SIMPLE PIECE OF DIRECTION FINDING...




... IF WE PLOT THE LINES OF  
ENEMY AIM, I THINK WE'LL FIND  
WHERE THEY'VE GOT SKOLO  
TAHKUS TUCKED AWAY ...



RIGHT HERE IF MY CALCULATIONS  
ARE CORRECT.

SABER PUT HIS CRAFT DOWN IN A CLEARING —



MAINTAIN HOVER AND ONLY RELEASE  
THE SHIELDS ON MY RETURN.

AFFIRMATIVE: GROUND SHIELDS  
ACTIVATING IN TEN SECONDS.

MY COMPUTER CALCULATES THAT IT  
WOULD BE BETTER IF I STAYED WITH  
THE THUNDERBOLT, SKIPPER.



THE RESCUE ATTEMPT HAD NOT COME A MOMENT TOO SOON —



YOU WILL NOTE THE MOUTHS OF THESE BEAUTIFUL CREATURES. IF THIS COWARDLY MAKO VERMIN WILL NOT JOIN US I SHALL RELEASE THEM INTO HIS CAGE. WITH THEIR SPEED AND TINY TEETH THEY WILL ATTACK HIM. HE WILL TAKE MANY TRONES TO DIE. IT WILL BE GOOD TO WATCH. EVEN HIS COAT SHALL NOT SAVE HIM.

CANNOT EXERT ANY MORE PRESSURE, SKIPPER, MY CIRCUITS WILL BURN OUT, I, UH, MIGHT BECOME, UH, DEACTIVATED.

COME ON OSAP, STOP WORRYING ABOUT YOURSELF, THE DOOR'S BEGINNING TO MOVE.


WITH A DEAFENING CRASH, THE CAMOUFLAGED DOOR FELL BACK...

WELCOME MY FRIENDS, IT PLEASES  
ME GREATLY TO SEE YOU.

WE WERE JUST PASSING, SKOLO,  
THOUGHT WE'D DROP IN...







OSAP, DISCHARGE SOME NEGATIVE IONS  
TO WEAKEN THE FIELD. SKOLO WILL BE  
ABLE TO STEP OUT.

LATER...

I FEAR THEY MUST HAVE A  
CONSIDERABLE FORCE ON  
OUR PLANET. SOMEONE  
WAS RECEIVING ORDERS  
FROM A HIGHER AUTHORITY.

FIRST, LORD SKOLO, WE'D  
BETTER GET OUT OF HERE.

BACK ON BOARD THUNDERBOLT ...

RAISE UP TO TEN TRONICS, OSAP, MAKE SURE THE CO-ORDINATES FOR THE DEFENDERS ARE FED INTO THE COMPUTER. I DON'T WANT TO ... BY ALL THE SUN SPOTS, I DON'T BELIEVE IT???

BY THE EIGHT SUNS OF MAKU, THEY ARE RAKKA. THEY MUST HAVE SLIPPED IN THROUGH THE FROZEN POLES OF OUR PLANET.

COMPUTER, AT THEIR CURRENT RATE OF PROGRESS, HOW LONG BEFORE THEY REACH THE CITY?

SEVEN EARTH HOURS AND FORTY-SIX POINT ZERO EIGHT FIVE EARTH MINUTES.



THE THUNDERBOLT SWOOPED TOWARDS THE ONCOMING RAKKA.

PRIORITY MESSAGE TO MAKO H.Q.: RAKKA ARMY  
WILL REACH CITY IN TWO SUNS, REPEAT, TWO  
SUNS. PREPARE YOURSELVES. LORD SKOLO  
TAHKUS ALIVE AND WELL AND IN OUR HANDS.  
MESSAGE ENDS. RIGHT, LET'S TAKE A CLOSER  
LOOK.



SABER OPENED FIRE ON THE LEADING RAKKA CRAFT —

BRING UP THE GRAV-SHIELDS, COVER THE FRONT  
LINES. WE WILL SOON STAMP OUT THESE MAKO  
SCUM FOR GOOD.



THE MAKO PILOTS HAD REACTED  
TO SABER'S MESSAGE—



THE MAKO SQUADRON BLASTED  
INTO THE OUTER ATMOSPHERE.

MAKO WARRIOR TO THUNDERBOLT, CAN  
WE MEET — WE MUST SEE OUR  
LEADER...

AFFIRMATIVE MAKO WARRIOR, JUST  
KEEP COMING, WE HAVE YOU ON VISUAL.



THE PILOTS WERE BEAMED ABOARD THUNDERBOLT FOR THE TRADITIONAL BLESSING —

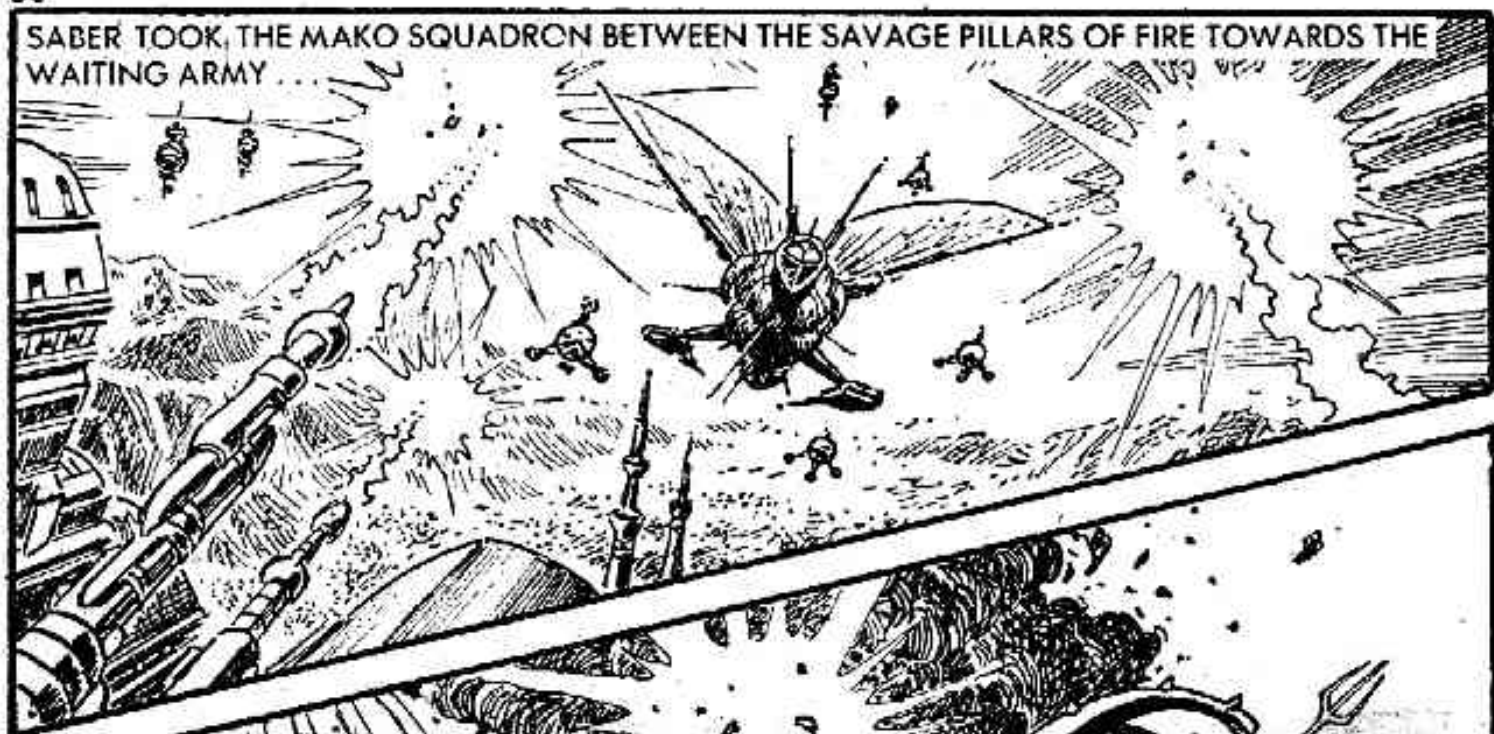
I, SKOLO TAHKUS, BLESS THESE WARRIORS AS THEY PREPARE TO DEFEND OUR LONG HERITAGE. HEAR ME ANCIENT SPIRITS, WE FIGHT ONLY TO DEFEND.

ALIEN, ALIEN, SECTOR NE,  
BEARING 124, RANGE 4 TRONICS  
AND CLOSING.

BREAK FORMATION MAKO  
WARRIORS! LINE UP BEHIND  
ME AND FOLLOW ME DOWN!



SABER TOOK THE MAKO SQUADRON BETWEEN THE SAVAGE PILLARS OF FIRE TOWARDS THE WAITING ARMY...



CLEAR NOW, MAKO WARRIORS! SPREAD OUT AND STRIKE WELL.



THE SMALL FLEET HACKED SAVAGE CHANNELS THROUGH THE ONCOMING RAKKA.

WE'D BETTER CHECK WHERE THESE RAKKAS ARE COMING FROM.



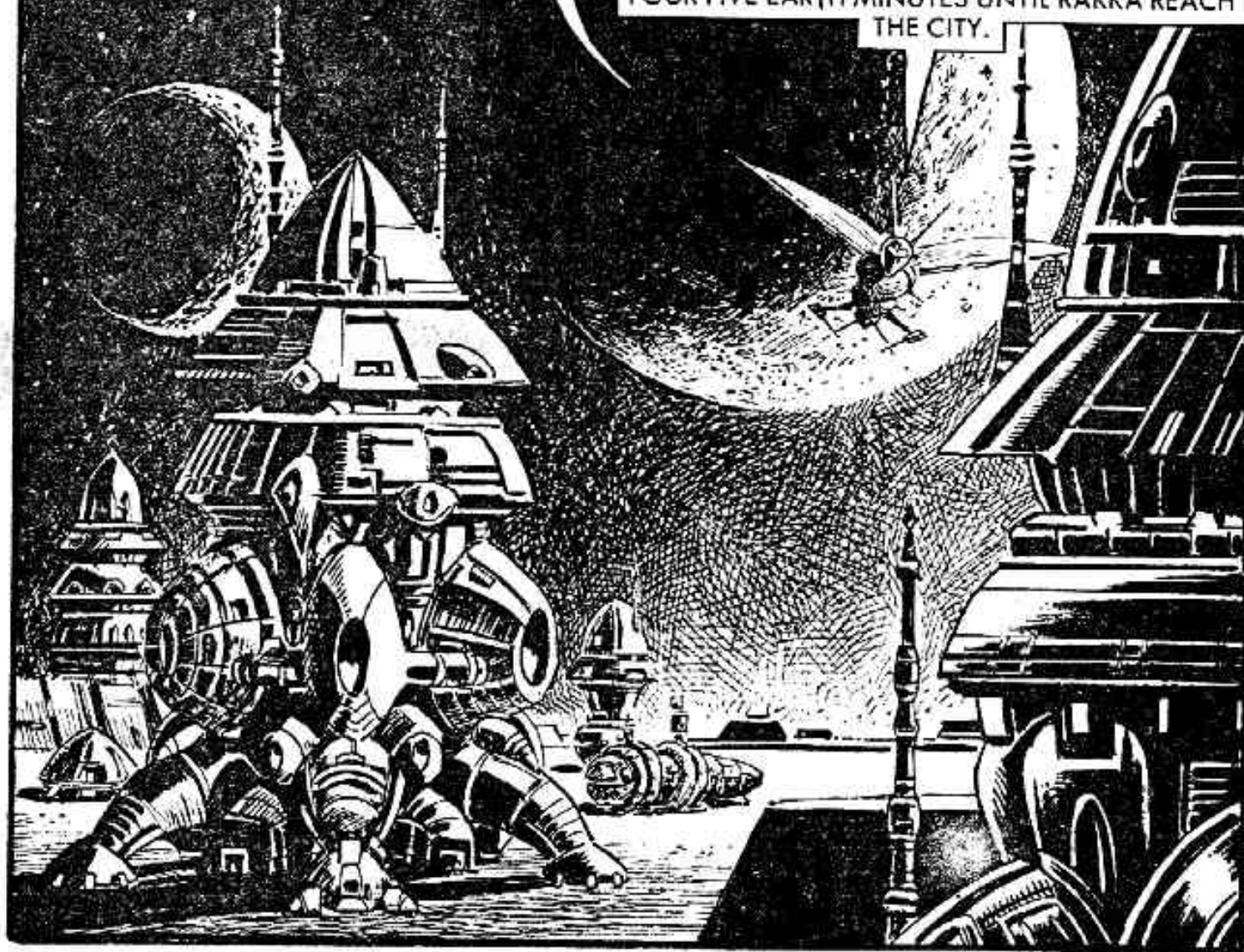
I SUSPECT THE FROZEN NORTH, THE LAND OF DARKNESS. THE ANCIENTS WARNED US OF THE STRANGE CREATURES THAT LIVE THERE. YES, WE MUST GO.



NOT VERY MUCH LATER OVER THE FROZEN WASTES —

THE ONLY STRANGE CREATURES I  
CAN SEE, SKOLO, ARE RAKKA!

FIVE EARTH HOURS AND SEVENTEEN POINT SIX  
FOUR FIVE EARTH MINUTES UNTIL RAKKA REACH  
THE CITY.

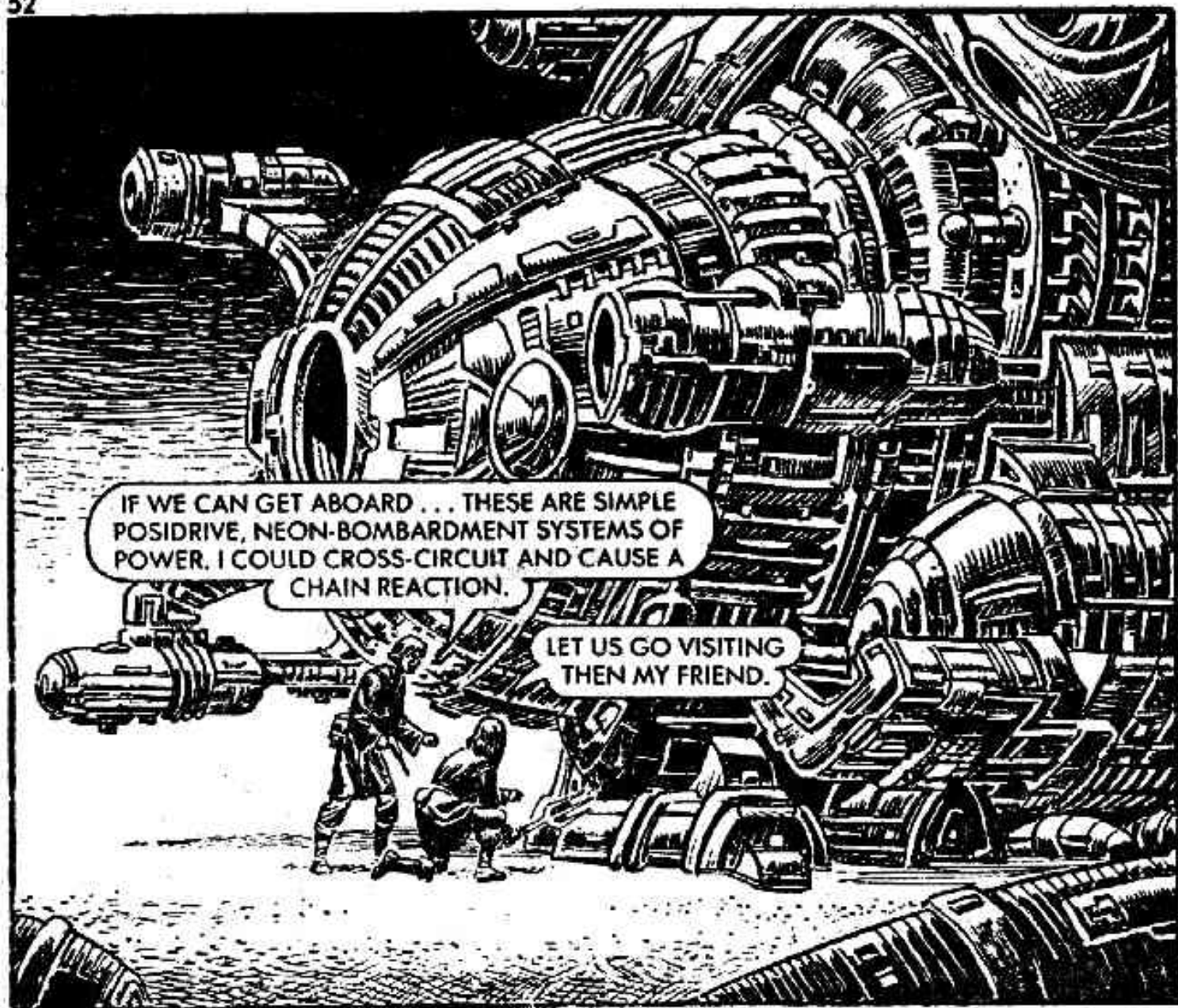


SKOLO TAHKUS AND SABER TOOK A CLOSER LOOK.

STAY ON THE MONITORS, OSAP, IF  
ANYTHING GOES WRONG, START BLASTING.

UNDERSTOOD SKIPPER.





SKOLO AND SABER BURST IN USING A FUSION CONCUSSER THAT SHATTERED TEMPERED TITANIUM —













THERE IS STILL THE SMALL MATTER  
OF OUR ESCAPE SABER...

I SHALL TAKE CARE OF THAT! OUT  
THROUGH THIS OBSERVATION DOME.

WE'RE OUT OSAP. KEEP THEM BUSY. DROP THE GROUND SHIELD, WE'RE COMING IN.

GET US OUT OF HERE, OSAP...



THE THUNDERBOLT LIFTED OFF FROM THE BLEAK AND FROZEN SURFACE...

... WITH NOT A MOMENT TO SPARE.

GET US BACK TOWARDS THE CITY, OSAP.

AFFIRMATIVE, SKIPPER.



A SEARING, MERCILESS DEATH BURST ACROSS THE RAKKA SUPPORT CRAFT.



BACK ON THE PLAINS OF MAKO, THE BATTALION COMMANDERS DREW UP THEIR LINES TO RESIST THE RAKKA —

GREAT PILLARS OF FIRE! LOOK AT THEM! WE MUST BE OUTNUMBERED 100 TO 1.

THEN WE MUST TAKE A 100 WITH EACH OF US TO OUR DEATHS FOR OUR BELOVED CITY.



SEE HOW THE WEAKLINGS FLEE BEFORE  
US. SOON THEY SHALL ALL PERISH.



STOP THE VESSEL, OSAP.

WHAT IS THIS???



LOOK DOWN THERE, LORD SKOLO! WE CAN NEVER DEFEAT SUCH AN ARMY BY NORMAL MEANS! THEY WILL OVER-RUN THE CITY IN NO TIME. I HAVE ANOTHER PLAN.

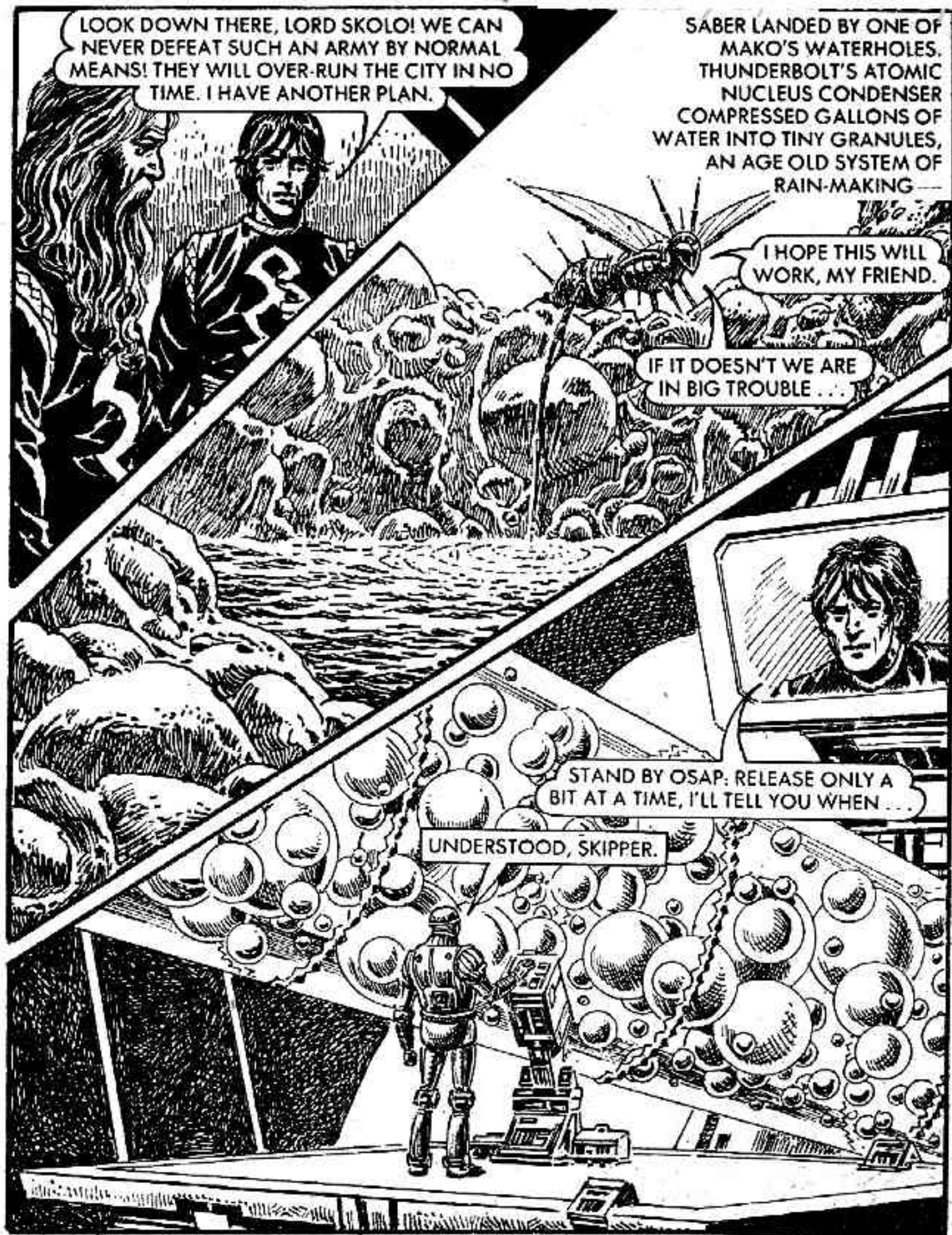
SABER LANDED BY ONE OF MAKO'S WATERHOLES. THUNDERBOLT'S ATOMIC NUCLEUS CONDENSER COMPRESSED GALLONS OF WATER INTO TINY GRANULES, AN AGE OLD SYSTEM OF RAIN-MAKING —

I HOPE THIS WILL WORK, MY FRIEND.

IF IT DOESN'T WE ARE IN BIG TROUBLE ...

STAND BY OSAP. RELEASE ONLY A BIT AT A TIME, I'LL TELL YOU WHEN ...

UNDERSTOOD, SKIPPER.



SABER QUICKLY BLASTED OFF —

NOW.

HUGE CLOUDS OF WATER AND VAPOUR LASHED DOWN ON THE RAKKA ARMY AS THE AQUASEEDS EXPLODED INTO THEIR ORIGINAL FORM ...



YOU HAVE JUST BEEN SPRAYED WITH HYDRO-NEUTRALISER, YOUR WEAPONS ARE NOW USELESS AGAINST US. YOU WILL SURRENDER WHILST YOU HAVE THE CHANCE.





IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, LAND YOUR CRAFT AND WALK AMONG US, OR DO YOU FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY, WOMEN OR MAKO??

THUNDERBOLT DESCENDED

THEY'VE CALLED OUR BLUFF...



... BUT THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE COATS.

NOW DIE, FOOLS...?



NOW MEN OF RAKKA. DO YOU WISH ME TO ORDER MY VESSEL TO OPEN FIRE?

UNAWARE THAT SABER'S HYDRO-NEUTRALISER WAS TOTAL NONSENSE AND THAT IT WAS ONLY THE COATS THAT PREVENTED SKOLO AND SABER FROM BEING INCINERATED, THE RAKKA LEADER CAPITULATED —







... SHOULD YOU EVER  
CHOOSE TO RISE AGAINST  
US, AGAIN, YOU WILL  
ALL BE DESTROYED, THAT  
IS ALL.




THE ANCIENTS WILL BE GREATLY  
PLEASED MY FRIEND. WE HAVE  
ACHIEVED VICTORY WITH LITTLE  
LOSS OF LIFE. THIS IS A PROUD  
MOMENT.



REST, MY FRIEND, TONIGHT THERE WILL  
BE GREAT FEASTING, AND YOU SHALL BE  
MY GUEST OF HONOUR.

I AM SORRY, SKOLO, BUT I HAVE TO SAY  
GOODBYE . . . MY TASK HERE IS FINISHED.

BUT, HIGH ABOVE MAKO —



THERE HE IS... BLAST DOWN  
AND DESTROY HIS SHIP.

AS THUNDERBOLT DEPARTED —

ALIEN! ALIEN! BOW 0120...

BLAST OFF!





THUNDERBOLT EASILY AVOIDED THE MISSILE —



THUNDERBOLT EDGED INTO THE ETHER CURRENTS OF SPACE  
TO RIDE THE ION WAVES IN THE CONSTANT BATTLE AGAINST THE EVIL AND VIOLENT.

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MISS**

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OTHER ACTION-PACKED  
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THE PLANET OF PRISMS  
HOUSED THE HOME OF A  
PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN  
RACE WHO SOUGHT  
TO DOMINATE THE  
UNIVERSE

**THE  
CRYSTAL  
KILLERS**

**NOW  
ON  
SALE**



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Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Shatalov, 42, was pilot of Soyuz 4, launched on January 14, 1969. The mission lasted 2 days, 23 hours, 14 mins, and was memorable for achieving the first transfer of cosmonauts in space when it docked with Soyuz 5, launched some hours later.

Shatalov also flew on Soyuz 8 on October 13, 1969, on a mission lasting 4 days and 22 hours, 41 mins, and on Soyuz 10, launched April 23, 1971. This mission flew for 1 day, 23 hours, 45 mins. Shatalov now heads the Soviet manned space programme.